

Express Mail Label No. EV 016 640 315 US
Attorney Docket No. 5125.02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Confirmation No.: 3108

K. Jon Kern et al.

Application No.: 09/677,401

Group Art Unit: 3622

Filed: 29 September 2000

Examiner: D. Lastra

For: LOYALTY REWARD PROGRAM FOR REDUCING THE BALANCE OF A LOAN
OBLIGATION

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

APR 13 2004

GROUP 3600

Sir:

Please enter this Second Preliminary Amendment in the above-referenced patent application. Please do not enter the Preliminary Amendment filed on 17 October 2001, because the page and line numbers referenced in that prior amendment are incorrect, and the drawings enclosed with that prior amendment contained a few minor discrepancies. This Second Preliminary Amendment is otherwise substantively identical to the Preliminary Amendment filed on 17 October 2001, but contains proper references to the portions of the specification to be impacted, and it includes accurate formal drawings.

In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph on page ⁴7, lines ^{14 15}1-2, with the following paragraph:

Figs. 41A and 41B together comprise a screen shot of a sample full registration form required to view loan information at the site;

Please replace the paragraph ~~bridging pages 17 and 18~~ ^{on page 13, lines 20-30} with the following paragraph:

If, at block 1632 of Fig. 16, the user elects to view loan information for loans serviced by a primary loan servicer, they eventually will be shown more detailed information about all of their loans that are being serviced by the primary loan servicer. First, however, the system runs through the process represented by Fig. 18. After block 1810, the system checks (block 1820) to see if the user is trying to view detailed account information for the first time. If it is the user's first attempt to view detailed account information, at block 1822 the user is required to complete a detailed registration. From Figs. 38 and 39, for example, a user may click on the "student loan account" hyperlink 72. When the user clicks on the "student loan account" hyperlink 72 for the first time, they are asked to complete a full member registration form like that depicted in Figs. 41A and 41B. The information requested during the detailed registration helps the primary loan servicer determine if it is servicing a loan for the registered member.

Please replace the paragraph on page ^{14 1 10}~~18~~, lines ¹⁰~~3-12~~, with the following paragraph:

Once the registered member completes the full member registration form, any available student loan account information would be displayed to the member (block 1824 of Fig. 18). Fig. 42 is a sample screen of information displayed following completion of the full member registration form when a user has fewer than the minimum number of loyalty points that may be applied (twenty-five in the preferred embodiment) and when the user does not have any loans being serviced by the primary loan servicer. As shown in Fig. 42, no loan information is displayed, and the meter graphic indicates that the user has \$6.42 in earned loyalty points. Fig. 43, on the other hand, is a sample screen that would be displayed for a user who completes the full member registration form (e.g., Figs. 41A and 41B) and has both a loan with the primary loan servicer and at least twenty-five earned loyalty points.

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In the Drawings

Informal drawings were filed in this application. Fifty-one (51) sheets of formal drawings are submitted herewith for consideration by the Examiner in reviewing this application.

Marked-Up Version

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by this Second Preliminary Amendment. The attachment is captioned, "**Version With Markings To Show Changes Made.**"

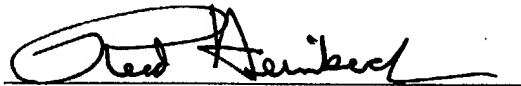
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REMARKS

The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at (303) 629-3400 if he has any questions regarding this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 17 May 2002



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Version With Markings To Show Changes Made

In the Specification

In the paragraph on page ⁴1, lines ¹⁴1-¹⁵2, please make the following amendments:

Figs. 41A and 41B together comprise [Fig. 41 is] a screen shot of a sample full registration form required to view loan information at the site;

In the paragraph bridging ~~pages 17 and 18~~ ^{on page 18, lines 20-30} please make the following amendments:

If, at block 1632 of Fig. 16, the user elects to view loan information for loans serviced by a primary loan servicer, they eventually will be shown more detailed information about all of their loans that are being serviced by the primary loan servicer. First, however, the system runs through the process represented by Fig. 18. After block 1810, the system checks (block 1820) to see if the user is trying to view detailed account information for the first time. If it is the user's first attempt to view detailed account information, at block 1822 the user is required to complete a detailed registration. From Figs. 38 and 39, for example, a user may click on the "student loan account" hyperlink 72. When the user clicks on the "student loan account" hyperlink 72 for the first time, they are asked to complete a full member registration form like that depicted in Figs. 41A and 41B [Fig. 41]. The information requested during the detailed registration helps the primary loan servicer determine if it is servicing a loan for the registered member.

In the paragraph on page ¹⁴18, lines ¹3-¹⁰12, please make the following amendments:

Once the registered member completes the full member registration form, any available student loan account information would be displayed to the member (block 1824 of Fig. 18). Fig. 42 is a sample screen of information displayed following completion of the full member registration form when a user has fewer than the minimum number of loyalty points that may be applied (twenty-five in the preferred embodiment) and when the user does not have any loans

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being serviced by the primary loan servicer. As shown in Fig. 42, no loan information is displayed, and the meter graphic indicates that the user has \$6.42 [\$2.50] in earned loyalty points. Fig. 43, on the other hand, is a sample screen that would be displayed for a user who completes the full member registration form (e.g., Figs. 41A and 41B [Fig. 41]) and has both a loan with the primary loan servicer and at least twenty-five earned loyalty points.